



KEYNSHAM MUSIC FESTIVAL ASSOCIATION LTD ENVIRONMENTAL AND WASTE POLICY

At Keynsham Music Festival, we believe global issues around climate change are a local issue, where small differences create big change. As a festival we believe we have a responsibility to educate ourselves and encourage others as they see the work we do to improve our sustainability, reduce our carbon footprint and minimise our environmental impact.

Our aim is to reduce the total waste produced on site year on year and to work towards the elimination of single use plastics. We will do this using a combination of education, systems and infrastructure which enables and encourages new habits and behaviors as well as tightening regulation of products permitted on site. These will apply across the whole festival to include performers, audiences, retailers, volunteers and suppliers; they will be monitored using surveys and statistics following each annual event.

The festival has consulted and is working closely with the Keynsham Wombles and Great Western Recycling to develop an ongoing strategy and educate the public.

Some of the ways we currently reduce our impact:

- Communicating with artists, audiences, partners and stakeholders by email rather than letter where possible.
- Providing recycling bins and waste sorting area for all waste.
- Using reusable pint glasses at all the bars.
- Food traders are asked to use no plastic or polystyrene and use biodegradable crockery and cutlery on their stalls. All plastic cups etc. should be made from clear recycled plastic which will be collected and sorted for recycling after use.
- Performers and traders are asked to use biodegradable glitter at the event.
- Bristol Water will be asked to attend the festival with their water bar. Attendees will have easy access to fresh drinking water, encouraging festival goers to bring a reusable water bottle.
- No polystyrene will be permitted on site.
- Our aim is to reduce the amount of new plastic or single use plastic being used onsite and trying to use plastic from recyclable sources rather than raw materials.
- We are working to reduce the amount of printed materials the festival produces.
- Using litter pickers daily to keep the site as clear and clean as possible at all times.
- Glass is prohibited on site.
- Using local crew and encouraging staff and artists to consider their own impact, and to use other methods of transport i.e. bus, train, car share, walking, cycling etc.
- Offering vegetarian and vegan catering options.
- We hope to get involved in a greener festival or a similar festival initiative that is designed to support festivals, venues, companies and audiences in reducing their carbon footprint.
- The Wombles will hand out portable ashtrays, as some smokers do not see cigarette butts as litter.
- We hope to be printing the Festival programme with sustainable/ recyclable paper (FSC certified).
- Items which have been recycled to date are cardboard, paper, food trays, glass, plastics such as bottles, cups and cans. Food waste recycling will be collected if at all possible.

- The majority of attendees live in the Keynsham area thereby minimising the use of private transport.

Keynsham Town Council set out an action plan to reduce the town's Single Use Plastics adopted in November 2018.

Keynsham Music Festival feels it is important to be a leader in sharing and expressing the town's values.

Keynsham Wombles have provided litter picking services since 2013. This has encouraged the public to use the bins provided although not always correctly. All bins were used for all waste. Therefore in 2017 volunteers from the Wombles began separating recycling from general waste removing the risk of cross contamination of recyclable items from general waste.

Keynsham Music Festival will ask Keynsham based Great Western Recycling to deal with waste removal. They guarantee no waste goes to landfill which will further reduce our carbon footprint. Great Western Recycling will collect the separated recycling that Keynsham Wombles have sorted; the remaining waste unsuitable for recycling will be incinerated for energy recapture at Avonmouth, thereby closing the loop.

Actions for 2023

- The festival will continue to monitor the weight of recycling and general waste removed from the festival site. Quantifying this data allows us and others to follow our progress.
- The festival will continue to survey festival infrastructure to establish activities that produce waste. Initial focus will be on single use plastic. I.e. Which single use plastics are currently used? Why are they needed? What could be adapted? E.g.: water for staff and performers, build items such as cable ties.
- Performers and crew will be asked to bring their own bottles and mugs for free drinks.
- Traders will be asked to reduce their packaging at the festival. Cardboard can easily be dealt with if clean and dry. The festival will welcome the organisers of an Eco festival within the overall festival.

Aims for future, some of which have been achieved but there is still room for improvement

- Single use plastic on site to be reduced year on year, with the aim of removing altogether as technologies develop. Eliminating the need for single use plastic cups.
- No plastics that originate from raw oil, aiming for recycled plastics instead, therefore closing the loop.
- Festival goers will be encouraged to bring reusable cups, bottles, etc. to reduce single use items used on site. Festival water bottles to be provided.
- The park café is currently out of our jurisdiction and is managed by BANES. We do advise them of our trading outlines and have spoken to BANES directly to encourage them to go polystyrene free.
- Reduce total waste from the park year on year. 2022's figure was 40% lower than seven years ago and the number of bins ordered for 2023 will be lower still.
- Talk to key stakeholders about the possibilities of a fountain being installed in the park to provide water refills as a legacy for the town's people all year round.
- Projects or promotions to reduce a specific type of litter e.g. cigarette butts or asking the public to bring reusable items.

This policy will next be reviewed by 1st January 2024.